23 ACCUSED GHOMESHI

Will the others come forward after verdict?

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Toronto metro

Your essential daily news | MONDAY, MARCH 28, 2016 | High 8°C/Low -1°C Rain

LATE TO THE METER? IN TORY'S TORONTO, THAT'S TOW BAD

metroNEWS

VINCE TALOTTA/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Protest matters

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Sit-in at police HQ sees action on Afrofest, racism review

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

A week after it began a sit-in outside police headquarters, Toronto's Black Lives Matter movement is gaining ground.

One of the protesters' two major concerns was addressed last week, when the city reinstated the popular Afrofest music festival's two-day permit in Woodbine Park.

"It's unfortunate an organization like Black Lives Matter has to exist before certain things happen," said Afrofest president Peter Toh.

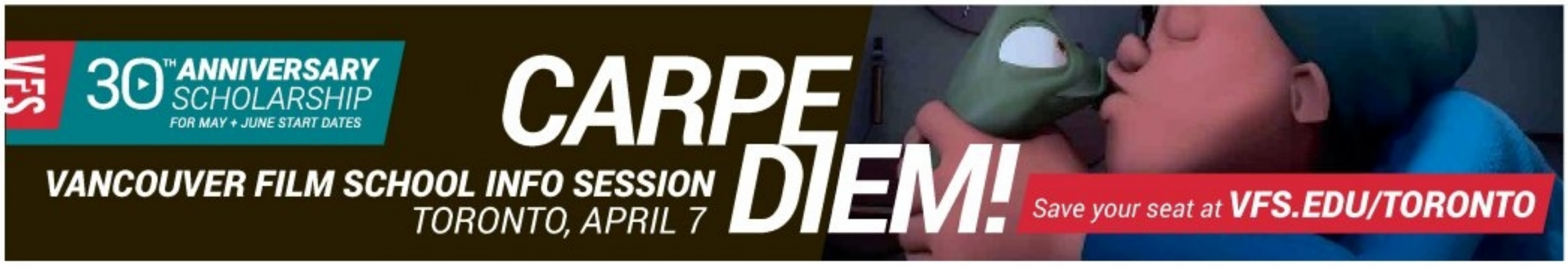
Plus, the activists have found allies at city hall.

Three councillors are asking the province to conduct an "anti-racism" review of the Toronto Police Service and the Ontario Special Investigations Unit (SIU).

"People are saying that the system is not fair, that the system is not delivering services in equitable fashion," said Kristyn Wong-Tam, who authored the motion with colleagues Mike Layton and Gord Perks.

If their motion is passed by council this week, the city will ask the province's new Anti-Racism Directorate and the Ontario Civilian Police Commission to re-evaluate the SIU's mandate in cases where victims are from racialized communities.

The sit-in was sparked in part by the SIU's decision not to charge the Toronto police officer who shot Andrew Loku, a black father of five, last July.



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1 Purchased Duplex - $800/mth

Individual results may vary, some are better or worse because it depends on how much time, energy and money an individual puts into their real estate business. © 2016 NVCompanies. All Rights Reserved. Gifts and promotional materials may vary.

metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

Brussels police, far-right mob clash at attacks shrine. **World**

Keeping pipe dreams alive

MUSIC

Voice doctor keeping seven Juno hopefuls pitch perfect

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

A Toronto voice therapist has a unique perspective on this year's Juno Awards — he's seen inside many of the nominees' throats.

Aaron Low is a voice pathologist who specializes in helping professional singers. Over the course of a 17-year career, he's worked with the likes of Sting and Mick Jagger, as well as seven of this year's Juno nominees, including rising star Shawn Mendes.

When working with a singer, Low will give them exercises to keep their voice in shape, and he'll also step in when there's a problem.

"We take care of singers predominately by giving them feedback on what their voice box looks like using a tool called stroboscopy," he said. "It gives us slow-motion replay of their voice, in movement and function."

Voice pathologist Aaron Low pretends to strangle one of his patients, Juno-nominated singer Shawn Mendes of Toronto.
COURTESY AARON LOW

It's similar to how a batting coach will evaluate a baseball player's swing, Low said. By watching a singer's voice box in slow motion, he can spot problems.

"One major problem for singers is what we call a polyp, which is kind of like if you slam your finger in the door, break a blood vessel and get a blood blister," he said. "That can come about with one loud scream, or abusive voice act."

Fortunately, fixing polyps involves a fairly routine surgery.

"We'll use a laser tool, while the patient sits awake," Low said. "The polyp will be there one day and gone the next."

This year's Junos are happening in Calgary from March 28 to April 3. Low will be keeping an eye out for all his past and present clients, but said he's crossing his fingers for Mendes in particular.

"He's a great guy, a talented singer and I'm always excited to see him do well," he said.

> We take care of singers ... by giving them feedback on what their voice box looks like.
> Voice therapist Aaron Low

Humans of Toronto by K. Omar

> Absolutely no motivation right now. I have no idea what's going on and where the world is going, I take it day by day.

Humans of Toronto is K. Omar's social photography project aimed at photographing and talking to people in the city. Selections from her work feature weekly in Metro. See more at Humans_of_Toronto on Instagram.

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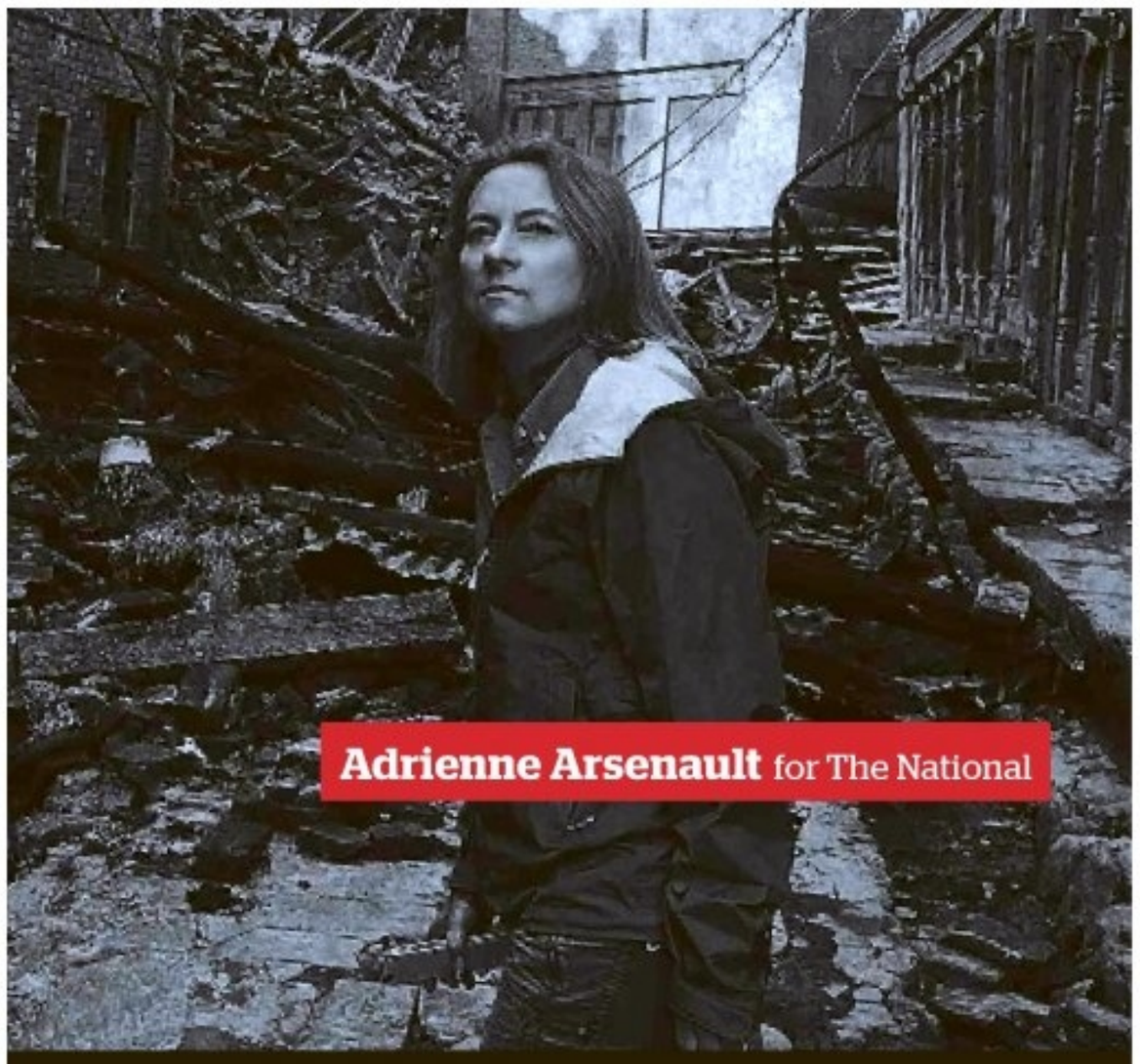
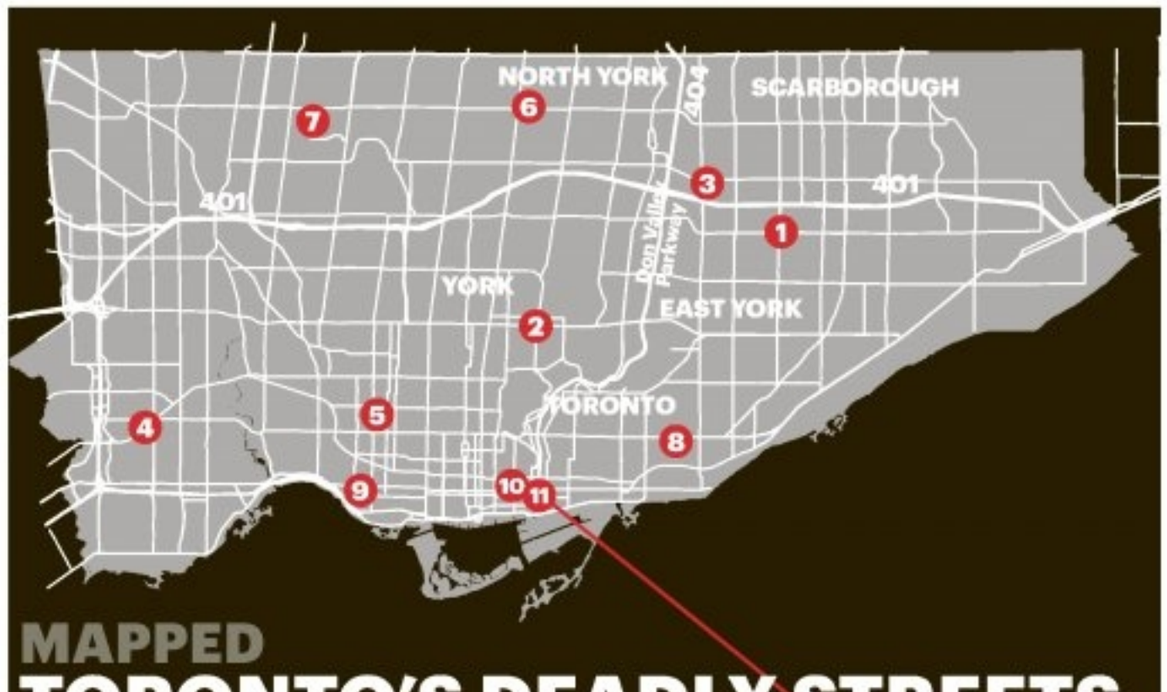


Adrienne Arsenault for The National

news

Investigates

John Lancaster for CBC Toronto



MAPPED

TORONTO'S DEADLY STREETS

Pedestrian traffic fatalities in 2016

1 Kennedy Road & Ellesmere Road
Sunday, Jan. 3 — A 39-year-old man was hit by an SUV and killed while crossing Kennedy Road, south of Ellesmere Road.

2 Bayview Avenue & Eglinton Avenue East
Friday, Jan. 15 — An 85-year-old woman was hit by a crossover SUV while crossing Bayview Avenue at Eglinton. She later died in hospital.

3 Sheppard Avenue East & Chichester Place
Sunday, Jan. 17 — A 79-year-old man was hit by a crossover SUV and killed while crossing Sheppard Avenue near Chichester Place.

4 Dundas Street West & Poplar Avenue
Thursday, Jan 28 — A 49-year-old woman was crossing Dundas Street West when she was hit by a left-turning private bus. She was taken to hospital and succumbed to her injuries on Feb. 2.

5 Dufferin Street & Armstrong Avenue
Saturday, Jan. 30 — A 90-year-old woman was hit by a car and killed while crossing Dufferin Street, south of Armstrong Avenue.

6 Wedgewood Drive & Tobruk Crescent
Wednesday Feb. 10 — An 84-year-old man was hit by a driver who jumped the sidewalk on Wedgewood Drive. The victim was taken to hospital and died Feb. 13.

7 Finch Avenue W & Tobermory Drive
Saturday Feb. 13 — A 72-year-old woman was hit and killed by a driver as she attempted to cross Finch Avenue.

8 Dawes Rd & Secord Ave
Thurs. Feb. 18 — A 74-year-old woman was hit by a right-turning van driver while crossing Secord Avenue at Dawes Road. She was taken to hospital, where she died Feb. 21.

9 MacDonnell Ave & Queen St West
Thurs. Feb. 18 — A 70-year-old man was killed after he reportedly fell on to the road and was hit by a TTC bus.

10 Queen & Jarvis
Fri. March 4 — A woman was hit by a dump truck and was pronounced dead before paramedics arrived on the scene. Police have not released further details.

NEW FATALITY
333 King St E
Wed. March 23 — A 79-year-old woman was hit by a vehicle while crossing King Street East near Princess Street. She was taken to hospital, but passed away as a result of her injuries March 24.

** The previous version of this map included a pedestrian fatality on Suntract Road. Police are now investigating the incident as a possible homicide, so the entry has been removed.

TEXT: METRO
GRAPHIC: ANDRES PLANA/METRO

TRANSIT

Metrolinx set to act after outcry

After being roundly criticized by Mississauga's mayor, councillors and residents, Metrolinx appears ready to fix problems created by the construction of a bus station built right next to dozens of homes.

Less than 24 hours after a public scorning by city council — which charged that Metrolinx had completely ignored the impact on residents' quality of life — Metrolinx chair Robert Prichard visited the station near Highway 403 and Erin Mills Parkway. Affected homeowners told council that, since the station opened in September, they have endured excessive noise, buses passing right next to their backyards, security cameras peering into their properties and bright stadium-like lights shining through their windows all night. One homeowner now has a raised bathroom looming over the property's rear fence, with fumes blasting from a vent directly above the swimming pool.

"We're absolutely clear about what their concerns are, and we're committed to address them as much as we can until they're happy," said Anne Marie Aikins, Metrolinx's head of strategic communications, detailing an upcoming public meeting that will include city officials and residents.

"It all happened very quickly," said Mayor Bonnie Crombie, who two weeks ago joined her council colleagues in condemning Metrolinx. "That (next) morning Robert Prichard called me and was very committed to fixing the problem … I don't think they realized how difficult it was for the residents."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

A sign protesting a Metrolinx Go bus station at Erin Mills.
ANDREW FRANCIS WALLACE/
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Legal hurdles far from over

TRIAL

Jian Ghomeshi due back in court this June

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

Jian Ghomeshi was found not guilty of sexually assaulting three women last week, but the disgraced radio host's legal woes are far from over.

Two years ago, 22 women and one man went to the media with allegations of sexual assault at Ghomeshi's hands.

Last week's acquittal doesn't preclude any of them – or any victim who didn't go to the press – from coming forward now, said social justice lawyer Peter Rosenthal.

Despite Justice William Horkins' harsh words for the three defendants – he accused them of "outright deception" during his verdict Thursday – Rosenthal said the judge's decision can serve as a blueprint for getting a future conviction.

The same set of allegations, even with the same post-assault kisses and flirtations that derailed the last trial, could result in a guilty verdict if the complainant is upfront and honest, he said.

"If a woman has a straightforward and clear recollection of a sexual assault that happened to her, there's no reason she shouldn't come forward to the police," he added.

University of Toronto law professor Brenda Cossman disagreed, and said she would be "flabbergasted" if anyone comes forward now, and even more so if they found justice.

"Potential complainants will look at this and say I'm going to be put on trial and I'm going to be decimated. I don't want this to happen to me," she said.

Cossman called the trial a "trainwreck" and said it would be nearly impossible to get a guilty verdict with a similar complaint.

The problem, she said, lies with how judges interpret behaviour of alleged victims, questioning their credibility if they continue to contact or flirt with the accused following an attack.

"Our sexual assault laws, as they play out on the ground, are profoundly flawed by the deeply gendered assumptions about sex and sexuality," she said.

The Ryerson Unversity's Centre for Women and Trans People staged a rally at Old City Hall on March 24, in response to last week's acquittal and to show support for the #WeBelieveSurvivors and #IBelieveSurvivors movement. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

UP NEXT

Jian Ghomeshi is facing another sexual assault trial in June. The identity of the complainant is covered by a publication ban. She came forward at the same time as the three other complainants, but the circumstances of her case are different.

The sexual assault is alleged to have occurred in the workplace, in 2008, when Ghomeshi was the host of CBC's Q.

PUBLIC OPINION

Majority of Torontonians disagree with verdict, poll says

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

It's a good thing for Jian Ghomeshi that he was tried in a court of law, rather than the court of public opinion.

A new poll by Mainstreet Research found a majority of Torontonians disagree with Thursday's verdict, which acquitted the former CBC host on four counts of sexual assault and one count of choking.

Women were more likely to find fault with Justice William Horkins' decision, with 57 per cent of female respondents expressing disapproval compared to 49 per cent of men.

Nearly half the women surveyed said the case has lessened their confidence in the justice system. Only 30 per cent of men felt the same.

> **Confidence in our justice system seems to be shaken.**
> Quitto Maggi

Older Torontonians were more likely to agree with the verdict than younger ones, indicating a "generational gap," noted Mainstreet Research president Quito Maggi.

Regardless of how they felt about the outcome, Torontonians certainly paid attention to the Ghomeshi trial. Over 60 per cent said they followed the case closely or very closely.

"The Jian Ghomeshi trial will be remembered for many things, including the fact that it was the first trial to heavily include social media," Maggi said.

"Every piece of evidence, every detail, and every story was shared, tweeted and posted and discussed. We saw many journalists live tweet the entire thing, down to every sentence of the verdict."

The defendant on Thursday
CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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TRANSIT

Search continues for new voice of TTC

Andrea Rooz can empathize with commuters. CONTRIBUTED

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

Acting out pre-recorded TTC announcements was one of Andrea Rooz's favourite games as a kid growing up in Toronto.

Now, the veteran voice actor gets to do the work for real.

"It's a thrill," said Rooz, whose voice is currently featured on some TTC service announcements, as the transit commission continues its search to replace Danny Nicholson, who retired as the voice this month.

"I've been a voice actor now for the past 10 years but, believe me, this is a really cool gig," said Rooz.

It's even cooler when family and friends tell her they recognize her voice in the recordings. Rooz's career as a voice professional started in radio, where she worked as a traffic reporter in Toronto. She's the voice of the Aboriginal Peoples Television Network, has read SickKids lottery commercials and recorded messaging for various telephone companies.

But nothing is as satisfying as being able to help the thousands of commuters who take the TTC every day, she said.

"When I read these messages I try to put myself in their position," she said, adding she's experienced TTC's delays and can relate to people's frustration.

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Parking enforcement tows a car away. The number of cars towed by the city nearly doubled in 2015, according to reports.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES

More tows, fewer tickets

VEHICLES

Police say ticket revenue falls for the fourth year in a row

After Mayor John Tory pushed for stepped-up enforcement for rush hour parkers, the number of vehicles towed nearly doubled in 2015.

But police claim those efforts mean the total number of parking tickets issued last year — revenues used to bolster increasing cash-strapped city budgets — continued to decrease for the fourth year in a row.

Reports to the city's government management committee, which meets April 4, say a total 42,763 vehicles were towed last year, including 17,348 vehicles as a result of rush-hour enforcement. Only 20,238 vehicles in total were towed in 2014.

Toronto police credited the jump in numbers to the rush-hour tows as well as efforts to tow Ontario-licensed and out-of-province vehicles that have three or more long-outstanding parking tickets.

That focus has drawn resources from other parts of the city, said police spokesperson Mark Pugash, suggesting a reason for declining tickets.

In 2015, 2.18 million tickets were issued, compared with 2.49 million handed out in 2014. Of the tickets issued in 2015, 16 per cent were cancelled, in most cases by a court or parking official.

Revenue from tickets issued in 2014 was $72.1 million. So far, $55.4 million has been collected from tickets issued in 2015, with the city anticipating more fines to be paid this year.

"The efforts are being focused on where we think they will make the biggest difference with respect to gridlock and traffic flow," Pugash said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES

SCARBOROUGH

Body wrapped in sheet found in industrial yard
Toronto police are investigating after a body was found wrapped in a sheet in a Scarborough industrial yard Sunday evening.

Police were called to Passmore Avenue and State Crown Boulevard around 5:30 p.m. after someone spotted the body. Emergency crews found the person unresponsive, and after life-saving efforts were made, they were was pronounced dead on scene. Police say the coroner had been dispatched.

Const. David Hopkinson said police are investigating the incident as suspicious and detectives are on scene to determine whether the death was criminal.

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The historic stone bas-reliefs have been corroded by years of exposure to salt water runoff near the Gardiner Expressway. TODD KOROL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Historic ACC art falling apart

AIR CANADA CENTRE

Owners under fire for not preserving sculptures

The historic stone carvings adorning the outer walls of the Air Canada Centre are going to pieces — literally.

The Art Deco panels bring into vivid relief the icons of industrial progress and modernity — a train, steamship and airplane — as well as figures of early Canadiana, from mushers to voyageurs. But deterioration of the carvings, especially those sitting parallel to the Gardiner Expressway, has erased fine detail and given portions a porous, sponge-like appearance.

Salt spray and carbon pollution from the Gardiner — metres away from the south façade — have gnawed away at the limestone panels, corroding the integrity of pieces chiseled by a preeminent 20th-century Canadian sculptor and protected under the Ontario Heritage Act.

Documents obtained by the Star reveal a two-year back-and-forth between the city and site owner Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment (MLSE). So far, that has produced no tangible protection measures for the bas-reliefs, parts of which can crumble at the swipe of a hand.

"The work's ruined," says Louis Temporale, Jr., son of the sculptor behind the 78-year-old artworks, Louis Temporale, Sr., who died in 1994. "It has gone past the point of no return."

He says MLSE has shirked its duty to preserve the heritage pieces, adding the city should have pushed the sports giant harder in recent years.

The younger Temporale recarved and restored portions of the 35 panels in the late 1990s, shortly after the ACC property owners signed a conservation contract with the city. That heritage easement agreement from 1996 obliges the property owner to "minimize the deterioration" to the former Postal Delivery Building's facades and protect them from "damage from inclement weather."

Toronto Heritage Preservation Services alerted the MLSE board of governors to the "severely deteriorated state" of the reliefs, an apparent breach of contract, in a letter dated June 14, 2014. Then-acting head of Heritage Mary MacDonald reminded them of their obligation to maintain the historic carvings.

Since then, no protective covering, temporary or otherwise, has been installed. Narrow overhangs above the panels are "not performing to keep rain off the artwork," wrote Toronto preservation co-ordinator Mary Pedersen in an email last month to MLSE, which encompasses TV stations, real estate and sports teams like the Toronto Maple Leafs and Toronto Raptors.

"We've been working with Heritage Preservation Services since the first inquiry in 2014 to come up with both a short-term and a longer-term strategy for the protection of the carvings," ACC building operations director Bryan Leslie told the Star earlier this month.

Sean Fraser, director of programs and operations for the Ontario Heritage Trust, noted the sculptures — "a touchstone for the past and something to inspire us in the future" — are "non-renewable."

"Like all cultural heritage, you get one chance to fix these things… Once you lose them, you lose them forever," he said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

> Like all cultural heritage, you get one chance to fix these things … once you lose them, you lose them forever. Sean Fraser

The erosion at the ACC is the product of years of naked exposure to salt water runoff and carbon pollution from the Gardiner Expressway, mere metres away. CONTRIBUTED

Bunnies hop down Queen

The 50th annual Toronto Beaches Lions Club Easter Parade drew thousands of spectators to Queen Street East on Sunday as colourful floats and bunny-eared performers made their way west from Munro Park to Woodbine Avenue.

LIZ BEDDALL METRO

Clockwise from top left:
A fleet of streetcars from vintage to modern glide along Queen Street East.
A young bunny waves to the crowd from inside one of the vintage streetcars.
A member of the Beach Cheer Athletics Team is hoisted up before a cheering crowd
Six-year-old pals Hilary Bahr, left, and Eva Cheng endeavour to fill their basket with eggs from passing parade walkers.
Ten-month-old Casey Gates enjoys the passing floats.

EASTER

Centre's supper leaves guests, volunteers feeling 'wanted'

In the quiet moments before hundreds of guests began passing through the Good Shepherd Centre for their Easter dinner, a friendly bunny hopped between tables.

Her white ears wiggling and pink nose twitching, Maria Cappadocia looked the part of the holiday hare all the way down to her little lamb slippers.

"I just want to make it more fun by getting dressed up and being more animated," she said. "If you dress the part, you feel happier."

For the past 16 years, Cappadocia has been doing just that. Every holiday, she greets the city's homeless and down-on-their-luck residents as they enter the centre for a hot meal.

Beyond the bunny getup, she has a closet full of homemade costumes fit for every occasion.

"It's about helping others and not being selfish," she said, before adding that she's gotten something out of the deal too — one Easter, while volunteering, she met the man who would later become her husband.

But it's people like Cliff who really benefit from the feast.

He's been coming to the Good Shepherd for the past ten years; between bites, he explained why.

"The volunteers are all amazing," he said, adding that the food is, too. "I love this. Usually you come for seconds, but by the time I'm done with this I don't think my stomach will be able to take any more."

The Good Shepherd Centre, near the corner of Queen St. E. and Parliament St., has been feeding Toronto's needy since the 1960s. Over the course of a regular day their team of more than 50 volunteers will feed 1,100 people; on Sunday, they served that many in just two hours.

"Our whole motto or mission is to provide services in a very human and dignified manner," said Adrienne Urquhart, the centre's director of fundraising.

"On a holiday everybody is usually with family or friends and a lot of our folks don't have that so we're trying to give them a celebration on these special days so they feel wanted."

Feeling wanted is important for volunteers, too. Rozanne Finkelstein has been helping out at the centre during holidays for the past 15 years, and feeling welcome is a big reason she keeps coming back.

"I was nervous about coming in here the first time because I didn't know what to expect," she said, but once she was through the door that all changed.

"I just felt like I was at home," she said. "I feel like I'm a Jewish Catholic once a year and I love it."

It takes about two weeks to prepare the food for a holiday meal and only two hours for it all to be eaten up, but Urquhart said Toronto's hungry can count on the Good Shepherd to keep feeding its flock.

"Everybody should be thankful for what they have and at a time like this where people are celebrating their faith we should have faith in each other."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Volunteer Maria Cappadocia, as the Easter Bunny, waits for the doors to open at the Good Shepherd Centre on Queen Street East. RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CONSERVATION

Arctic permits may have expired

Environmentalists say talks on creating a third national marine conservation area are being held up over Arctic offshore energy exploration permits that may not legally exist.

"Looking at the permits, it looks like the rights expired in 1979," said Alex Speers-Roesch of Greenpeace.

The federal government has been trying for years to protect the waters of Lancaster Sound, the eastern gate of the Northwest Passage and home to a wealth of Arctic seabirds and mammals. The effort is strongly supported by local Inuit hunters and land claim groups.

But drawing the exact boundaries of the area, off the north coast of Nunavut's Baffin Island, has been at least partly held up over 30 exploration permits issued in the early 1970s to Shell.

Ottawa, under the previous Conservative administration, argued to keep the permits outside the area; Inuit and environmental groups wanted the protected area to include them and block industry activity. Shell wants compensation for any rights it loses.

But researchers have now found those permits may not be valid.

"Exploration rights are supposed to not last longer than nine years," said Speers-Roesch. "When we were looking at the existing exploration rights in the Arctic, the Shell permits stood out because they've been around for decades."

An Access to Information search found no evidence the permits had been renewed. Nor could Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada, the responsible department.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Directives given to spy agency kept largely secret

SECURITY

Civil liberties group protests CSIS's lack of transparency

The federal government has issued guidance to Canada's spy agency on using contentious new anti-terrorism laws — but most of the instructions won't be made public.

Many passages of the ministerial direction to the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, issued last July, were withheld from release due to provisions of the Access to Information Act concerning security, internal deliberations and cabinet confidences.

The office of Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale said ministerial offices are not involved in the processing of access requests, nor should they be.

But the federal decision to keep much of the ministerial direction under wraps did nothing to reassure those with concerns about C-51, the omnibus security bill that received royal assent early last summer.

> **One of our greatest concerns with C-51 is that CSIS has been given extraordinary new powers.**
> Josh Paterson, executive director of the British Columbia Civil Liberties Association

The legislation gave CSIS the power to actively disrupt suspected terrorist plots, even allowing the spy service to take actions that breach the Charter of Rights and Freedoms as long as a judge approves.

"One of our greatest concerns with C-51 is that CSIS has been given extraordinary new powers, including the power to break the law and violate the Constitution," said Josh Paterson, executive director of the British Columbia Civil Liberties Association.

"While some details need to remain secret, it's troubling that so much of the minister's high-level, general direction to CSIS on how the agency should interpret its new powers is blacked out. The government should be more transparent about the direction it is giving our spy agencies as to how they should be accountable."

While the public safety minister does not dictate day-to-day decisions by CSIS, he periodically issues written directions to the spy agency that broadly guide its actions.

The July direction combined and replaced two previous instructions, one on spy agency operations and another on accountability to the minister.

BY JIM BRONSKILL / THE CANADIAN PRESS

BIOLOGY GLIDER TECHNOLOGY MAKES WAVES

University of Victoria researchers hope to have a whale of a tale on their hands when their unmanned, subsea glider returns from the depths next month.

Geographer David Duffus and his team at UVic's Whale Research Lab launched a two-metre underwater drone off the western coast of Vancouver Island last week and sent it on a 23-day mission along the shelf break in Clayoquot Canyon to give scientists a rare glimpse into the behaviour and habitat of the region's whales.

"We really don't know much about the lives of whales," Duffus told Metro. "This will give us a snapshot of the animals, what they're feeding on and what their habitat is like. It's really poorly understood, especially further off the coast of B.C."

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO VANCOUVER

HISTORY

Patrol honours Titanic victims

Members of an international ice patrol that formed as a result of the sinking of the Titanic will be in Halifax this week for a ceremony to commemorate the more than 1,500 people who died in the disaster.

United States Coast Guard Cmdr. Gabrielle McGrath says the memorial will recognize the long history of the International Ice Patrol, which was established after the Titanic struck an iceberg and sank in the Atlantic Ocean in April 1912.

"It's why we do what we do, so that's why we find it so important," said McGrath in a phone interview. "It's very important to us to remember those people that perished and the fact that that's why we're here doing what we do and really making sure it never happens again."

A photograph of the Titanic.
THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP PHOTO/ ULSTER FOLK & TRANSPORT MUSEUM

McGrath, who is commander of the Connecticut-based International Ice Patrol, says the memorial will take place on Wednesday at the Fairview Lawn Cemetery in Halifax, the final resting place of about 120 of the Titanic's passengers and crew. BY ALY THOMSON / THE CANADIAN PRESS

TRAGEDY

Community mourns after toddler's body found

The joy of Easter was tempered by sadness in a Manitoba community following the tragic conclusion to the search for a missing two-year-old boy.

"Today, the family of Chase Martens is completely devastated as they come to grips with the tragic loss of their little boy," read a statement on Sunday by the Canadian Centre for Child Protection.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

UNEMPLOYMENT

Minister defends worker benefit gaps

Finance Minister Bill Morneau defended the Liberal government's decision to boost employment insurance benefits for parts of Alberta and Saskatchewan while leaving some hard hit areas of the oil patch out of the budget plan.

Morneau said the government had to decide what areas across the country needed the most help with extra weeks of employment insurance benefits for jobless workers.

Left off that list were cities like Edmonton, and parts of Saskatchewan that Premier Brad Wall has said could also use the help.

Morneau told CTV's "Question Period" that the government picked 12 regions to help them "deal with what's been a significant change and a harder time for those people to get re-employed."

Those 12 regions had what Morneau described as "sharp increases in unemployment that have been sustained."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bring Life to Learning

Easter bombing kills 65

PAKISTAN

More than 300 injured in terrorist blast in Lahore park

A breakaway Pakistani faction of the militant Taliban group has claimed responsibility for an Easter Sunday bombing in a park in the eastern city of Lahore that killed 65 people.

Ahsanullah Ahsan, spokesman for Jamaat-ul-Ahrar, said a suicide bomber with the faction deliberately targeted the Christian community.

The explosion took place near the children's rides in Gulshan-e-Iqbal park — which was crowded with Christians celebrating Easter — local police chief Haider Ashraf said. He said the explosion appeared to have been a suicide bombing, but investigations were ongoing.

The attack killed 65 people and wounded more than 300, said Deeba Shahnaz, a spokesman for Lahore rescue administration.

Punjab's chief minister Shahbaz Sharif announced three days of mourning and pledged to bring the perpetrators to justice, said Zaeem Qadri, a spokesman for the provincial government.

The park was manned by police and private security guards, police chief Haider Ashraf said. "We are in a warlike situation and there is always a general threat but no specific threat alert was received for this place," he added.

Schools and businesses in the city will remain closed on Monday, the city's schools association and the Union of Lahore Traders said.

1 A woman weeps for her injured family members as she tries to speak to security at a local hospital in Lahore, Pakistan.

2 Pakistani police officers and rescue workers gather at the site of bomb explosion in a park where Christians were celebrating Easter.

3 An man injured by a bomb blast talks on his cellphone at a local hospital.

ALL PHOTOS K.M. CHUADARY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif held a meeting to assess the security situation in Lahore, according to a government statement. Pakistan's army chief, Gen. Raheel Sharif, also convened an emergency meeting of the country's intelligence agencies to begin to track down those responsible for the attacks, said army spokesman Gen. Asim Saleem Bajwa.

Salman Rafiq, a health adviser to the Punjab government, called on people to donate blood, saying that many of those wounded were in a critical condition.

One witness, who wished to be identified only by his first name, Afzal, said he had taken 20 children to hospital and carried three dead bodies to a police car.

"I can't explain to you the tragic situation," he said.

A witness, not identified by name on Pakistan's Geo TV station, said he was heading toward a fairground ride with his wife and two children when he heard a huge bang and all four of them were thrown to the floor. A woman was shown crying while looking desperately for her missing five-year-old son.

A spokesman for the U.S. National Security Council said that the United States "condemns the attack in the strongest terms," describing it as a "cowardly act in what has long been a scenic and placid park."

Ned Price said the U.S. would continue to work with Pakistan and its partners to "root out the scourge of terrorism."

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau also condemned the attack, tweeting that it was a "deplorable" act and offering his thoughts and prayers to the victims and their families.

Vikas Swarup, spokesman for India's External Affairs ministry, tweeted that Prime Minister Narendra Modi telephoned Pakistani premier Nawaz Sharif to express his deep condolences. He said Modi "underlined the need for uncompromising efforts to fight against terrorism."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **We are in a warlike situation and there is always a general threat.**
> Police Chief Haider Ashraf

SYRIAN CONFLICT

Government recaptures city from Daesh extremists

Syrian government forces recaptured the ancient city of Palmyra on Sunday, scoring an important victory over Daesh fighters who waged a 10-month reign of terror there and dealing the group its first major defeat since an international agreement to battle terrorism in Syria took effect last year.

The city known to Syrians as the "Bride of the Desert" is famous for its 2,000-year-old ruins that once drew tens of thousands of visitors each year before Daesh destroyed many of the monuments.

The extent of the destruction remained unclear. Initial footage on Syrian TV showed widespread rubble and shattered statues. But Palmyra's grand colonnades appeared to be in relatively good condition.

The government was supported by Lebanese militias and Russian air power. Daesh now faces pressure on several fronts as Kurdish ground forces advance on its territory in Syria's north and government forces have a new path to its de facto capital, Raqqa, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

VATICAN CITY

Pope decries terrorism as 'blind'

Pope Francis tempered his Easter Sunday message of Christian hope with a denunciation of "blind" terrorism, recalling victims of attacks in Europe, Africa and elsewhere, as well as expressing dismay that people fleeing war or poverty are being denied welcome as European countries squabble over the refugee crisis.

Tens of thousands of people patiently endured long lines, backpack inspections and metal-detecting checks Sunday to enter St. Peter's Square. For years, Islamist extremists in social media have listed the Vatican and Rome as potential targets due to hosting the headquarters of the Roman Catholic church and several basilicas. Despite the threats, Francis has kept to his habit of trying to be in close physical contact with ordinary people.

Pope Francis. ASSOCIATED PRESS

Francis said, for the faithful, Jesus who rose after death by crucifixion "triumphed over evil and sin." He expressed hope that "will draw us closer to the victims of terrorism, that blind and brutal form of violence."

In his balcony speech, Francis said Easter "invites us not to forget those men and women seeking a better future, an ever more numerous throng of migrants and refugees — including many children — fleeing from war, hunger, poverty and social injustice."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BELGIUM

Uneasy mood in Brussels

Belgian riot police clashed Sunday with hundreds of right-wing hooligans at a temporary shrine honouring victims of the Brussels suicide bombings, as investigators launched fresh anti-terror raids, taking four more people into custody.

Police used water cannons when scuffles broke out in front of the Bourse, which has become a symbolic rallying point for people to pay their respects to those who died in Tuesday's attacks. Black clad men carrying an anti-Islamic State group banner with an expletive on it trampled parts of the shrine, shouting Nazi slogans. Ten were arrested and two police officers injured.

"We had 340 hooligans from different football clubs who came to Brussels and we knew for sure that they would create some trouble," Police Commissioner Christian De Coninck said. "It was a very difficult police operation because lots of families with kids were here."

Federal prosecutors, meanwhile, said Sunday morning's raids were linked to a "federal case regarding terrorism" but didn't specify whether it was the March 22 attacks.

Thirteen raids were launched in the capital and the northern cities of Mechelen and Duffel. An investigating judge was to decide later whether to keep the four in custody. Five were released after questioning.

Suspected plotters also were arrested Sunday in Italy and the Netherlands, though few details of their activity were released immediately.

Tuesday's bomb attacks are also tearing at the fabric of the government, justice system and police, and Belgium's interior minister sought Sunday to contain the growing criticism of the government's handling of the tragedy.

Interior Minister Jan Jambon conceded Sunday that decades of neglect had hampered the government's response to violent extremism.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Right-wing demonstrators protest. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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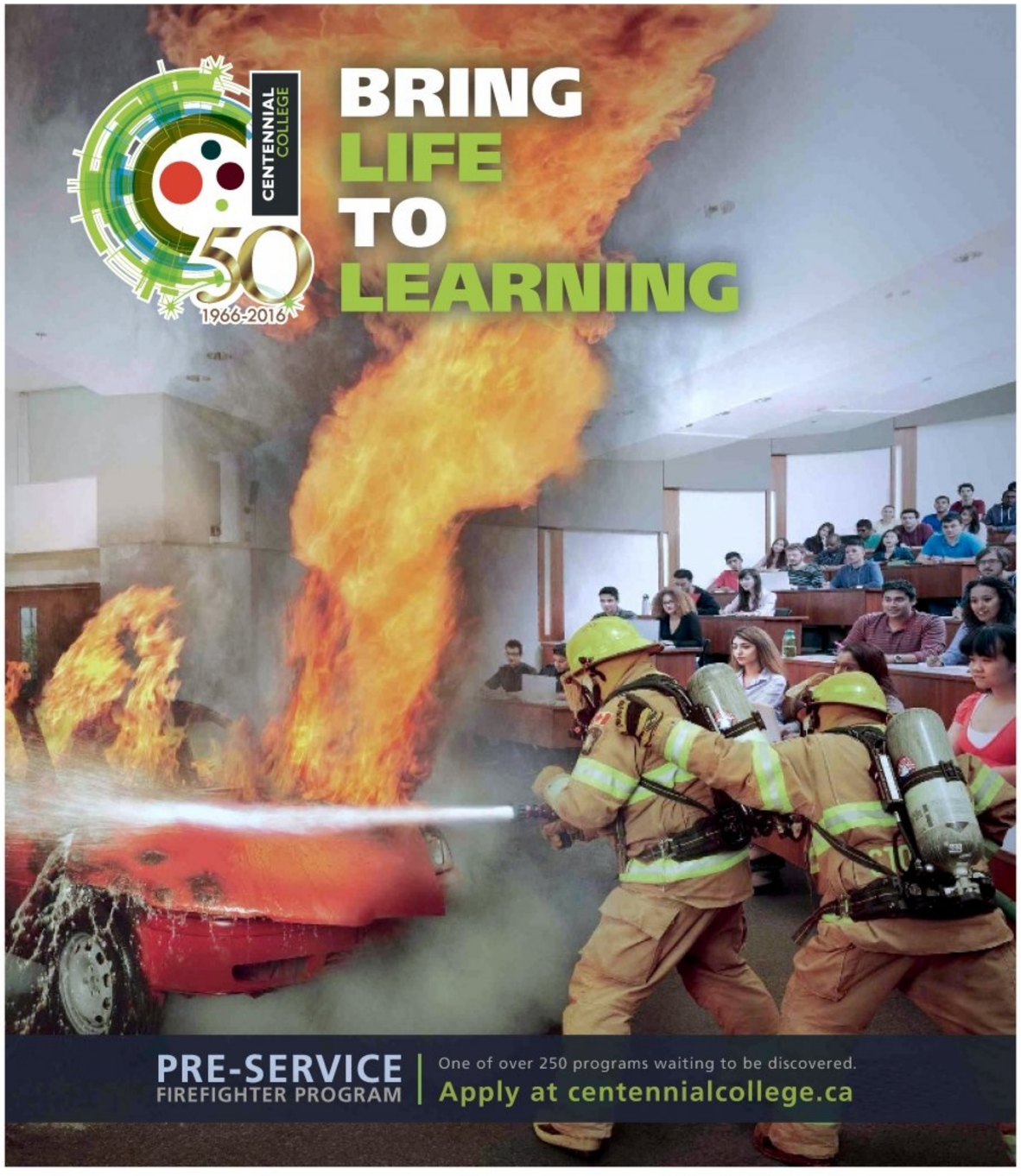

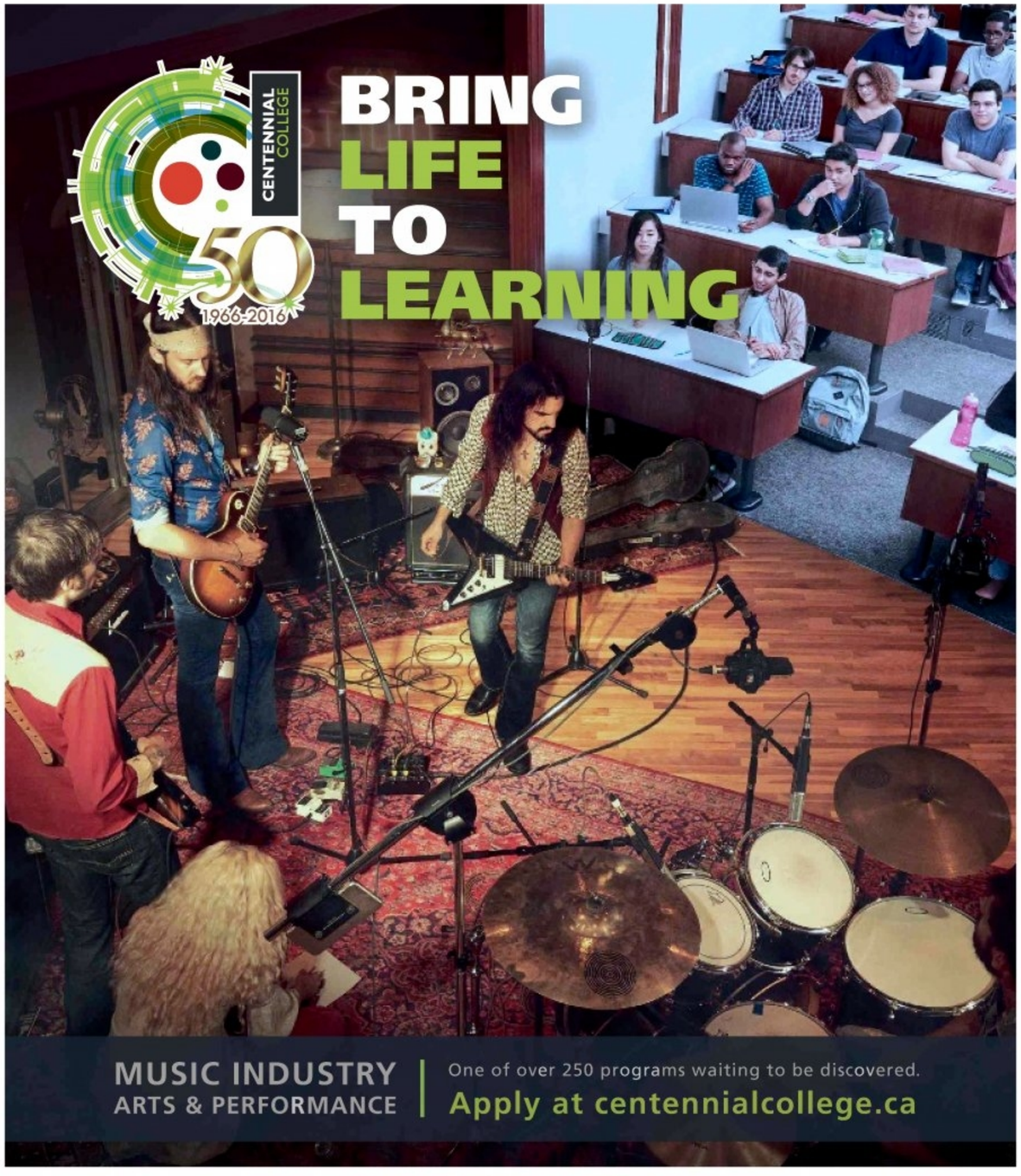

Bring Life to Learning

Women face uphill battle

ESPORTS

Commentator says females are not taken seriously

Jennifer Pichette has been playing video games since she was a kid. That's not unusual.

Like some people with a lifelong love of video games, she started playing professional tournaments. That's not unusual either.

Then she realized she liked commentating better than playing professionally, and started commentating online tournaments. Still not unusual.

But Jennifer Pichette is a woman, and in the worlds of professional video game playing and commentating, that is unusual, often to the detriment of the woman trying to make it in a burgeoning industry.

"Females aren't taken seriously," said Pichette, a Sudbury-based Masters of Medical Microbiology student at Laurentian University and commentator who is known online as LemonKiwi.

Jennifer Pichette of Sudbury, a professional commentator for eSports, typically commentates on the Call of Duty series of video games. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"It's just hard for a female gamer to come on the rise, and possibly even be professional."

Though eSports have been around since the early 1990s, the rise in popularity in the past few years has helped the once niche hobby turn into a lucrative sport competing for the mainstream.

With the jump into mainstream come some growing pains, though. Studies have shown more than half of all gamers are women, but they're still under-represented in eSports and commentating.

Pichette has experienced this first-hand. Being a female "caster" is still seen as an exception rather than the norm — and the problem is worse for players, she said.

Men will exclude women from teams, citing a lack of professional experience, but Pichette said it usually has more to do with gender than experience.

The problem extends to casting. When Pichette comes on a stream, her mostly male audience isn't expecting a woman to be their caster, and when they find she is, it leads to mixed results. "When they hear a female voice, they're kind of thrown off. It's sometimes not as well accepted," she said. Comments on her streams will suddenly shift from talking about the game to about how a woman is casting.

The opportunities have been steady for Pichette. She'll be hosting a Call of Duty tournament at the Enthusiast Gaming Live Expo, taking place April 29 to May 1 in Toronto.

Pichette still wants more women to have opportunities in gaming. She's started an all-female professional Call of Duty league, in the hopes that a safer space will encourage more women to consider playing professional eSports.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

EMPLOYMENT

Precarious work creeping into white-collar jobs

They're part-time employees without health benefits or pensions who work split shifts at a number of different locations each week. From one paycheque to the next, their income fluctuates, as do their hours.

These aren't workers hustling behind fast-food counters. They're aspiring librarians, often with at least one master's degree.

Precarious work, often associated with service-sector jobs, is spreading to jobs that were once considered realms of stable employment with benefits and pensions to boot.

"This type of employment has increasingly become the norm," said Wayne Lewchuk, a McMaster University economics and labour studies professor, who co-authored a recent report on the impact of precarious work.

More than 40 per cent of people employed in the knowledge or creative sectors are in precarious or vulnerable work, according to the report. More than one quarter of precarious jobs require a university degree.

"They're basically trapped in entry-level jobs," said Maureen O'Reilly, a librarian and president of the Toronto Public Library Workers Union.

The average wait time for someone to be hired as a full-time librarian with the Toronto Public Library is a decade — and that's for applicants who already have a foot in the door working other jobs at the library.

Universities, media organizations, hospitals and governments have also increasingly moved toward more precarious contract employment, Lewchuk said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Maureen O'Reilly, a librarian and president of the Toronto Public Library Workers Union. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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ECONOMY

Belgians fear attacks will hurt tourism

Easter Eggs and bunnies on display in a shop in Brussels. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

At the aptly named Planete Chocolat, the shelves are laden with enticing Easter treasures for shoppers: bunnies with bows, pastel-wrapped eggs and elegant boxes of pralines.

Swannee Vranckx, a clerk at the shop near Brussels' main square, said she would normally have seen 50 to 100 customers by mid afternoon in the days before one of the biggest holidays of the Christian year. But after the bombing attacks that shattered the tranquility of Belgium's capital, only a handful had come in search of Easter treats.

While the city's chocolatiers are quick to offer condolences to the victims of the tragedy, they are equally fast to express their concerns about the future. Their livelihoods depend on people from around the globe streaming into their shops to indulge in their world-famous goodies — and they know that tourists don't go places they don't feel safe.

1.45%

The rate at which the Belgian economy is expected to grow this year, down from a previous forecast of 1.6 per cent.

The bombings will cut consumer spending on recreation, leisure and tourism but they are likely to have only a short-term impact on the whole Belgian economy, according to Francesca Peck, an economist at IHS Global Insight in London. The losses may be magnified because the attacks occurred so close to the long Easter weekend, when restaurants and bars are typically busy.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Uber protests airport's plan to fingerprint drivers

Uber has objected to Atlanta airport's plan to use fingerprints to check criminal records of its drivers, saying its own record checks are sufficient. Uber has agreements with more than 50 U.S. airports, none of which require fingerprint-based background checks. Those airports include major air hubs in Denver; Los Angeles; Memphis, Tennessee; Charlotte, North Carolina; and Salt Lake City, Utah. But New York City does fingerprint drivers, and the mayor of Los Angeles has asked state regulators to allow his city to do so as well.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Deal reached to raise California minimum wage

California legislators and labour unions have reached a tentative agreement that will take the state's minimum wage from $10 US to $15 US an hour, a state senator said, a move that would make for the largest statewide minimum in the U.S. by far. At $10 an hour, California already has one of the highest minimum wages in the nation along with Massachusetts. Only Washington, D.C., at $10.50 per hour is higher.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Al-Jazeera to cut 500 jobs

Al-Jazeera, the Qatar-based broadcaster, said Sunday it is slashing about 500 jobs a little more than two months after announcing the closure of its U.S. offshoot. The network confirmed it employs about 4,500 people. Most of those losing their jobs are based in Qatar.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

metro VIEWS

Your essential daily news

Monday, March 28, 2016

EXTRA ANNOYING Scientists looking for alien life have found that other planets' cloudy atmospheres are blocking their views.

metroview

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

ON BEING A WOMAN IN COURT WITH GHOMESHI

Judge Horkins saw fit to underline the existence of false sexual assault allegations. It was an outrageous and unnecessary 31 words, especially after he earlier reiterated that the person charged with a crime gets the benefit of the doubt.

I doubt a single journalist walked into the Jian Ghomeshi sexual assault trial that first day of February suspicious of the heart of the allegations, or the three women behind them.

And I doubt even one walked out more than a month later doubting an acquittal was right.

But it was nevertheless excruciating to be a woman, sitting in the gallery watching the scandal diminish into thin testimony, easily batted away by the judge in his not-guilty verdict.

Even for those following every moment on Twitter, it was not the same as being in that room, seeing women's expressions, catching their glances, watching their faces as the witnesses described assault.

After Lucy DeCoutere's chief testimony, where she described being a people-pleaser who didn't want to upset Ghomeshi after the alleged assault, one woman reporter told me she cried listening to her account. "Of course!" the reporter said: Any woman could relate to that impulse.

But as the trial went on, sympathy and sisterhood was replaced at times with irritation, and bewilderment.

It only took Marie Henein, Ghomeshi's lawyer, one kick at the first witness for us to see that this was not going to be the trial we expected. Press coverage had created the mirage of a credible legal case against Ghomeshi, but the closer we got to the evidence, the more that credibility evaporated. After all the allegations of abuse, the months of stories, the investigations, the national conversation about sexual violence in this country: This was not going to be the comeuppance of a powerful man who hurt women, or, by proxy, a defeat of sexism itself. Instead, the trial became a microcosm of how women are coping with the status quo.

I saw in the protesters resilience, power and even righteousness.

SURVIVOR SOLIDARITY Protesters denouncing the Ghomeshi verdict have grown to a critical mass that could advance justice for sexual assault victims, Rosemary Westwood writes — but ingrained sexism remains an obstacle. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Silent and mostly unnoticed in the front row throughout the trial sat Ghomeshi's mother and sister. Where others saw symbolism in the case, to the family it was "deeply personal," said Jian's sister, Jila.

Then there was Marie Henein and Danielle Robitaille, her protégé, as much the faces of the trial as DeCoutere. Both lawyers cut formidable figures in slick suits and "killer heels," a visual display of their fierce skills, as Anne Kingston of Maclean's would note.

To the National Post's Christie Blatchford, Henein and Robitaille became a kind of harbour in the storm, two women "so clearly not seeking favour" from other women that Blatchford deemed them a "comfort."

They stood opposed to female activists, who Blatchford and the Star's Rosie DiManno both seemed to suggest would sooner turn the court into a psychiatrist's couch then give women their due credit for being able to weather tough questions. To Blatchford, covering the trial "was akin to being a member, by virtue of gender alone, of an over-delicate, slightly feeble-minded citizenry in need of perpetual deference and protection both."

I understand her concern, but I also saw in the protesters, especially the hundreds of mostly women outside the court the night of the verdict, resilience, power and even righteousness.

I watched a group of women carrying signs hurry in the falling dark toward the crowd.

"Have a great protest!" I yelled, stupidly, wanting to join them.

They gathered for speeches and then a march to Toronto Police headquarters chanting what's becoming a slogan for the whole ordeal: "We believe survivors!"

One young woman told me the trial had ended any hope she had in the justice system, but she would commit herself to advocacy and support work instead.

Some were marching against the acquittal itself. But I saw them also as a mass coalescing against the stalemate in justice for sexual violence.

There is hope for future reform.

But there is also the much murkier world of ingrained sexism, the kind that, despite Justice William B. Horkins's mostly harsh but fair ruling, stained his judgment in two unforgivable ways.

First, Horkins called into question the women's post-assault behaviour, which he said shouldn't be governed by stereotypes, but then went ahead and called "odd" anyway.

Second, and most egregiously, Horkins saw fit to underline the existence of false sexual assault allegations, and state this: "The twists and turns of the complainants' evidence in this trial, illustrate the need to be vigilant in avoiding the equally dangerous false assumption that sexual assault complainants are always truthful."

It was an outrageous and unnecessary 31 words, especially after he took time at the beginning to reiterate that people charged with a crime, in every case, are the ones who get the benefit of the doubt.

As I walked home that day, the adrenalin wore off and the sadness sank in. Sadness for Ghomeshi's family, who clearly love him. Sadness for the witnesses. For the protesters. For all sexual assault victims.

I walked through my apartment door, and cried. Of course. What else is a woman to do?

Instead of transit winners and losers, the budget picks math

TORY'S TORONTO

Matt Elliott

If you haven't read the federal government's 2016 budget yet, I recommend it. Fun read. Not a lot of twists and turns, but it kept me engaged. My favourite part is on page 92.

Now, sure, it doesn't look like much. It's just a rather nondescript transit funding table — all text and numbers. There's no colour. No stock photos of smiling children or very serious businesspeople.

It's simply got a list of provinces and territories with their share of national transit ridership, with that share then used to calculate how much of the government's planned $3.4 billion in transit funding (over three years) each province will get.

That may sound like an unremarkable thing — like, duh, of course transit funding should be divvied up using a metric like ridership — but for those of us who have followed the issue of government transit funding for a long time, this is a revolutionary shift.

Here's why. Traditionally, federal and provincial funding for transit has been doled out on a piecemeal, arbitrary basis. Government budgets would either commit to funding a few specific projects — usually with only the barest of justifications — or they would promise only to spend a certain amount of transit money, with the details TBD.

This led to an environment where transit funding announcements became absurdly politicized. With no mechanism for determining how to allocate cash, the last few decades are rife with examples of governments funding projects not based on ridership or business case, but because there was some political upside.

The Scarborough subway, for example, got federal funding at a time when the Conservatives were trying to hang on to seats they'd won in the 416 in 2011. Years before, a subway to Vaughan suddenly became a priority after the MPP for Vaughan became provincial finance minister. And the famously underutilized Sheppard subway got built in large part because former mayor Mel Lastman happened to be from North York, and really, really liked North York.

I could go on, but you get the point. If nothing else, page 92 is an indication that one level of government plans to get out of the business of picking transit winners and losers and instead simply provide a steady stream of funding for transit based on an objective measure like ridership.

That's an important shift — one that I hope Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's government follows through on.

Because the truth about building transit is that it doesn't need to be such a divisive, complex issue. It doesn't need to be about flashy campaign promises, or winning over key vote demographics, or colourful but entirely unrealistic maps.

Instead, as page 92 demonstrates, it can just be about math.

Matt Elliott lives and writes in Toronto. Follow him on Twitter @GraphicMatt

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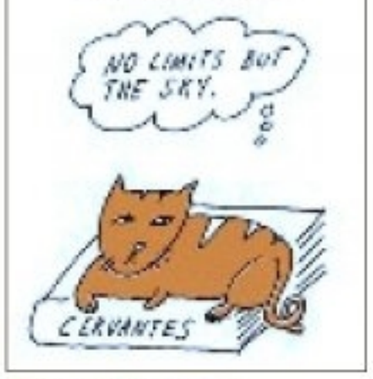

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metro LIFE

Your essential daily news

Batman v Superman shrugs off bad reviews, opens to $170M

Will Annick and Yolanda's financial goals be met? **Metro's finance guru Lesley-Anne Scorgie** has only a few weeks left to get Yolanda sticking to a budget and improving her cash flow.

Yolanda benefits from a buffer

LESLEY-ANNE SCORGIE
metromoney

THE CHALLENGE: Two young women have committed to transforming their financial lives in just 12 weeks with Metro's Money Makeover and finance guru Lesley-Anne Scorgie. Yolanda, 27, from Mississauga, is rapidly saving a down payment while Annick, 24, from Calgary, is crushing her consumer debt. With only three weeks to go, the big question is whether these ambitious women will achieve their financial targets.

THIS WEEK: Yolanda has planned a move and a trip to Montreal. Find out why, for once in her adult financial life, she doesn't have the heebie-jeebies about these upcoming expenses.

NEXT WEEK: Annick files her tax return and is surprised by the result. Has working with a tax professional been worth it?

LESLEY-ANNE SCORGIE IS A BESTSELLING AUTHOR AND FOUNDER OF MEVEST, A MONEY COACHING SERVICE FOR CANADIANS. FOLLOW HER @LESLEYSCORGIE

THE SITUATION

Yolanda has two expensive months ahead — $500 for movers, a truck and packing boxes as she moves back in with her mother in April plus another $500 for a fun trip to Montreal in early May.

Obviously the first is a need and the latter is a want — one that I believe is well deserved given her financial progress to date.

When I grilled Yolanda on her plan to pay for these one-off expenses, she confidently responded.

"When I stare at my budget I am happy. The numbers don't lie. I know I can afford these upcoming expenses. But, I will have to reduce what I spend on other things like meals and entertainment for a few months," she told me. "I'm making a financial trade-off and I therefore don't feel guilty."

Included in her plan is an expectation that she'll receive a healthy tax refund of a few thousand dollars during the month of April.

Certainly Yolanda will benefit from powerful charitable tax credits from her regular giving and also a tax deduction from her 2015 RRSP contributions.

But, history isn't always indicative of the future. What if Yolanda's tax refund is slim-to-none, or worse yet, she has to pay the government? Besides cutting back on her discretionary spending, she'll also have drain her "buffer" account that she's worked incredibly hard to build up.

And that's the point of a financial "buffer."

NET WORTH

Assets	
TFSA	1,000
RRSP	1,100
Savings	175
Pension	4,700
Total Assets	**$6,975**
Liabilities	
VISA	0
Master Card	0
Total Liabilities	**$0**
Net worth	**$6,975**

THE LESSON

Naturally most 20-somethings plan their finances optimistically: a tax refund will always be there; a raise is around the corner; a house, car or other big-ticket purchase will cost less than originally thought.

And dangerously, that a financial emergency, such as job loss, simply won't happen.

But, life deals a harsh hand at times and, in fact, the average Canadian experiences a financial gut-punch twice each decade.

When I lived with my grandmother during university she ingrained in my head that at all times I needed immediate access to a minimum of $1,000 to get out of a financial pinch.

She was right. I used that fund three times for burst pipes, a quick move and a hefty car repair bill — all before reaching age 25.

I cannot stress how important it is for every modern young person to build-up a financial buffer.

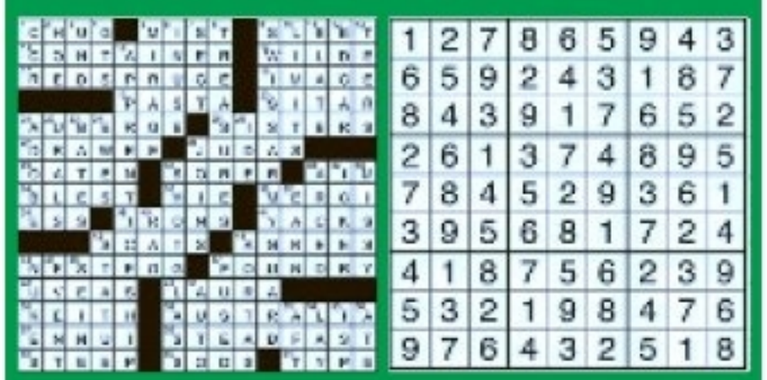
As a rule of thumb, if you've got credit-card debt, your buffer should be up to $1,000. If not, grow your buffer to the equivalent of three months' salary.

Gone are the days when Yolanda would raid her RRSPs and TFSAs to pay for minor emergencies, trips and vet bills.

Amongst many other valuable financial skills such as sticking to a budget and spreading out her expenses more evenly throughout the month (easier on her cash flow), Yolanda has learned that planning for the financial worst and hoping for the best reduces stress and squashes financial guilt.

Yolanda isn't letting some one-off expenses get her down this month because her budget can handle it. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

PLAY Yesterday's Answers
from your daily crossword and Sudoku



1	2	7	8	6	5	9	4	3
6	5	9	2	4	3	1	8	7
8	4	3	9	1	7	6	5	2
2	6	1	3	7	4	8	9	5
7	8	4	5	2	9	3	6	1
3	9	5	6	8	1	7	2	4
4	1	8	7	5	6	2	3	9
5	3	2	1	9	8	4	7	6
9	7	6	4	3	2	5	1	8

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Stop acting rich, and just be be rich

MONEY MANAGEMENT

Creating an illusion of wealth won't make you happy

Gail Vaz-Oxlade
For Metro Canada

I have met a lot of people who spend as if they're wealthy.

Without savings, an emergency fund or a debt-free balance sheet, they drive fancy cars, eat out three nights a week and have all the newest toys.

These are people who spend money creating an illusion to fool… who? Themselves? Their friends? People they don't even really know?

Folks drop big bucks on kitchen renovations. It's a very pretty kitchen. And when friends come over they comment on the beautiful cabinets, gorgeous appliances and granite countertops.

Then the I-Wish-I-Were-Wealthy people bask in all that admiration.

The thing their visitors don't know is that at night they toss and turn trying to figure out which minimum payment they'll make this week.

People dress UP. People drive UP. People live UP.

It's not really their own standards they're living or driving or dressing up to — it's the new standards that have been created by living in a world where we can look in at the rich and famous and want what they have.

If you aren't satisfied with the life you can afford — if you aren't living within your own means — ask yourself what it is this illusion of wealth you're striving for gives you.

Are you striving for oohs and ahhs? Are you trying to make others jealous? If you are compromising your financial well-being to build an illusion of wealth on sand that will eventually shift, how will you feel when people come to know your truth?

Most of the things that make us happy with our lives don't cost money. And many of the things in our lives that do cost money don't carry really big price tags.
Gail Vaz-Oxlade

I've heard people say things like, "I'd never buy anything off-brand," or "I have to take a cruise every year for my sanity," or "Kill me dead if you ever see me in those shoes!" Seriously?

I have expensive tastes. But never, ever in my life have I let my wants come before my needs. And I'm not just talking about present needs; I won't let my wants come before my future needs either. And I certainly won't let the wants other people have drive me to spend money on stuff.

It may be that the illusion of wealth is most important to those who have a sense they are always beings judged. It's sad that people feel this way.

But folks, it's a thought! You think you're being judged. You have the ability to replace that thought with this one: I don't need the illusion of wealth because I am wealthy. I don't mean Rockefeller wealthy, I mean rock-solid-foundation wealthy.

Most of the things that make us happy with our lives don't cost money. And many of the things in our lives that do cost money don't carry really big price tags.

It is not until we inflate our sense of entitlement, or seek to create the illusion of wealth to impress, that we get into trouble spending more than we have.

Today, move from the idea of illusion to a commitment to reality. Make your life purposeful and worthwhile. Stop spending money you don't have to buy things you don't need to impress people who don't matter.

For more money advice, visit Gail's website at gailvazoxlade.com

People who spend money to create an illusion of wealth are in for a tough time when the bills come in. ISTOCK

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Meghan Trainor says No

NEW ALBUM

Singer gets a little darker with sophomore LP

When playing songs from her upcoming sophomore album for her record label, Meghan Trainor heard this word from L.A. Reid: "No."

Reid, the veteran executive and Epic Records president, was referring to her first single. She didn't have one, he said.

Angry and upset, Trainor called producer Ricky Reed. They had collaborated on some of the songs she'd played for Reid, and in a day, they created No, the anthemic, beat-driven, Destiny's Child-influenced hit that's a departure from her signature doo-wop pop sound.

Reid's thoughts: "Yes." More like yasssss!

"I wrote No, and he was like, 'Give me five of these.' And we wrote five more songs," Trainor said in a recent interview.

"It was such a relief, like I could sleep at night knowing I finally found the single.

Meghan Trainor's new single No has already peaked at No. 11 on Billboard's Hot 100 chart. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"That's like the biggest stress for an artist, especially (for) album No. 2."

No, which has already peaked at No. 11 on Billboard's Hot 100 chart, isn't about L.A. Reid. It's a song about boys and female empowerment. Reed, frontman for Wallpaper and a producer behind songs for Jason Derulo, Twenty One Pilots and Pitbull, said creating the tune was like opening Pandora's box.

The other songs "were very great songs, but No was really the catalyst for the rest of the album," Reed said.

Of the songs on her new album, 22-year-old Trainor says with a laugh: "Songs like that wouldn't exist if L.A. Reid didn't push me till I wanted to cry."

The new album, Thank You, will be released May 13. Trainor has taken a more contemporary vibe compared with her 2015 debut, Title, which featured the hits Like I'm Gonna Lose You, Dear Future Husband, Lips Are Movin' and the game-changer All About That Bass.

The new songs are more confident and sleek, a reflection of Trainor, not just the singer, but also the person.

In her No music video, which debuted this week, Trainor trades her colourful, bright backdrops, buttoned-up ensembles and schoolgirl dance moves for sexy gyrations, tighter clothes and an overall darker setting — in the vein of late '90s pop music videos.

"I'm learning (about) myself even more. I'm learning what clothes are comfortable and what I love and what makeup and hair (I like)," said Trainor, who has gone from being a blond to a redhead.

"We changed everything and I'm very comfortable and all this promo isn't so scary anymore."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JOHANNA SCHNELLER
WHAT I'M WATCHING

Shandling was a master of unmasking

THE SHOW: The Larry Sanders Show, Episode 89 (YouTube)
THE MOMENT: Jim Carrey's farewell

On his last night as a talk show host, Larry Sanders (Garry Shandling) introduces Jim Carrey, who makes a hammy entrance to huge applause. "You'd think it was your last night," Sanders says, with a (clearly pained) smile.

"Just when I thought everything was solid in my life, you decide to go," Carrey says. "You know I can't get it up? Ever since the announcement I've been flaccid." Carrey launches into the ballad And I Am Telling You I'm Not Going, from Dreamgirls; he leaps on Shandling's desk, hugs him. Until they go to commercial.

"Let's cut the crap," Carrey snarls. "What are you gonna do now, movies? I'll crush you."

"Are you doing a bit?" Shandling asks nervously.

"We're off the air, Larry," Carrey says. "This is real life now."

When Shandling died last Thursday at age 66, Twitter exploded with RIP's from comedians (Jimmy Kimmel, Seth MacFarlane, Albert Brooks, Ricky Gervais), praising him for popularizing and perfecting so many current comedy trends: behind-the-scenes exposés; a deadpan, laugh-track-free tone; takes that linger on uncomfortable moments; celebrities playing nasty versions of themselves. His show established HBO as a go-to source of cutting-edge humour, and launched a raft of talent including Bob Odenkirk and Jeffrey Tambor (who are still pushing the envelope on their respective current series Better Call Saul and Transparent).

Shandling wasn't the first person to unmask Hollywood as a snakepit of insincere egomaniacs and he won't be the last. But to date, he did it the best.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

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How to make a superhero mashup

SUPERGIRL

There are a few things needed when executing a crossover

Look, up in the sky! It's a bird, it's a plane, it's every single comic book superhero ever created comin' atcha!

Hot on the heels of Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice comes television's latest comic book crossover. On tonight's Supergirl (CBS and Global at 8 p.m.), The Flash's Grant Gustin darts away from his own show and teams with Melissa Benoist for an episode titled World's Finest.

The common denominator in this clash of DC Comics titans is executive producer Greg Berlanti. The busy showrunner is considered a show business superhero, juggling six series at once. Most are comic book fantasies, with Arrow and DC's Legends of Tomorrow also produced under his watch.

Still, not everybody can make a crossover episode work. Here are four things Berlanti and his co-executive producers needed to make Monday's episode happen.

The Flash is darting away from his own show to join the cast of Supergirl on Monday. CONTRIBUTED

Super accommodating stars

Benoist, 27, is still in her rookie season and was all smiles in January as she and other cast members spoke with reporters at their Los Angeles studio.

"People were ready to see a strong female heroine," she says, adding how humbled she is "every time a little girl comes on set" and sees her in that familiar red, yellow and blue costume.

The Texan is on her home court for the crossover. Gustin, on the other hand, had to fly to L.A. from Vancouver where he already puts in 12- to 14-hour days. "Logistically it's almost impossible," Gustin said earlier this year on the Vancouver set of his series. He says the effects-heavy series is tough enough to complete on a TV schedule.

Super proximity

Crossovers between The Flash and Arrow and even DC's Legends of Tomorrow are made easier by the fact that all three shows are on neighbouring soundstages in Vancouver. The same is true of Chicago-based Dick Wolf dramas Chicago Fire, Chicago PD and Chicago Med. The Supergirl/Flash crossover was trickier because of Gustin's travel, but at least Vancouver and L.A. are in the same time zone.

Super storyline

On Monday's show, Flash visits an alternative Earth and helps Supergirl out of her recent funk by taking on two bad girls: Livewire (Brit Morgan) and Siobhan Smythe, now the Silver Banshee (Richmond Hill's Italia Ricci). The latter has a sonic scream that can crack concrete.

Super synergy

While Supergirl is on CBS and The Flash is on the CW, this crossover is still all in the family. Both shows are produced by Warner Bros. Television and DC Entertainment. The CW is jointly owned by Warner Bros. and CBS. Berlanti always saw crossover potential.

New CBS programming boss Glenn Geller saw it too and, faster than a speeding bullet, a crossover was ordered.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

THE CANUCKS

Canadian crossovers

Here are two more Canadian crossovers in TV's comic book world:

Amell. HANDOUT

Stephen Amell (Oliver Queen/Arrow on Arrow): The 34-year-old Toronto native will soon star as Casey Jones in Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Out of the Shadows.

Laura Vandervoort. HANDOUT

Laura Vandervoort (Indigo/Brainiac 8 on Supergirl): Before headlining Bitten, the Toronto native played Supergirl on the CW series Smallville.

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metro SPORTS

Cub Jason Heyward was forced to climb the outfield fence as a swarm of bees invaded Sunday's Chicago-Seattle game

IN BRIEF

Bronze woe for Canadians
Switzerland's Binia Feltscher topped Japan's Satsuki Fujisawa 9-6 on Sunday to win the women's curling world championship. It's the third consecutive world championship for Switzerland. Feltscher won the world title in 2014 and Alina Patz won last year.

Russia's Anna Sidorova beat Canada's Chelsea Carey earlier Sunday in the bronze-medal game. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Griffin finally begins ban
The Los Angeles Clippers say Blake Griffin has been medically cleared to return to the team and will immediately begin serving a four-game suspension for punching their assistant equipment manager Matias Testi in an incident in Toronto in January. The Clippers saw off the Nuggets 105-90 Sunday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rask stays hot for 'Canes
Victor Rask had the first multigoal game of his career, scoring twice as the Carolina Hurricanes beat the New Jersey Devils 3-2 on Sunday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Young guns stun England
Marco Bustos' second-half goal proved to be the winner as Canada's under-20 men's soccer team stunned hosts England 2-1 in an exhibition game Sunday. Kadin Chung opened the scoring for Canada. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hutchison OK after catching a sore one

MLB

Freak throw hits Jays pitcher in the head, but he laughs it off

Drew Hutchison is vying for a spot in the Toronto Blue Jays' rotation. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Drew Hutchison was more amused than frightened.

The Blue Jays pitcher escaped injury Sunday when he was struck in the back of the head by catcher A.J. Jimenez's throw to second base on an attempted stolen base during a 7-3 victory over the Tampa Bay Rays.

The smiling right-hander high-fived Toronto teammates and remained on the bench for a while after being removed from the game in the fifth inning. He later described the scary moment as just "one of those things," adding he probably would have argued to continue pitching if it had been a regular-season game.

"I'm good. It's one of those weird things that happened. It's what you get for being dumb and walking the leadoff guy," Hutchison said. "I was throwing the ball well. Unfortunately something weird happened and I had to come out."

Hutchison walked Brad Miller leading off the fifth. With Steven Souza Jr. batting, Miller took off for second and Jimenez's throw struck the pitcher, who crouched low to the ground on his follow through. The ball caromed into left field, allowing Miller to continue to third base.

Trainers and manager John Gibbons spoke briefly with Hutchison before the pitcher walked off the mound to the dugout, where sat on the bench for remainder of the half-inning.

"You don't see it that often. I thought it got him in the leg, and it ended up getting him in the head," Gibbons said. "But he's all right. He's got a hard head. We've always known that."

Before leaving the dugout and walking up the right first line to the visiting clubhouse at Charlotte Sports Park, Hutchinson said a few words to Jimenez and patted the catcher on the back.

"We're good," Hutchison said of Jimenez. "Unfortunately, it's just a weird play ... that you've got to laugh at."

Hutchison, trying to earn a spot in the rotation, struck out two and walked three.

"I thought I had really good movement," the Toronto starter said. "That's probably the frustrating part about today. Having to come out, not keep going and get deep into the game."

CANO'S SHOW

Robinson Cano had three home runs and seven RBIs to help the Seattle Mariners outlast the Cubs 12-9 Sunday. Elsewhere, the returning Jacoby Ellsbury was hitless in three at-bats as the New York Yankees lost 5-2 to the Twins.

Five different players drove in a run, while Hutchison allowed one run and one hit as the Jays scored three times in the eighth to pull away from a 3-3 tie. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOCKEY

Points to prove for Canucks

The Canadian women's hockey team has beaten the U.S. for gold in four straight Olympic Games. Why can't they do the same at world championships lately?

"That's a good question. We've got a week to figure out how," Canadian forward Hayley Wickenheiser said.

The U.S. downed Canada to win five of the last six world titles, so they are subject to the reverse question. Why world titles and not Olympic gold?

"We get that question a lot to be honest," U.S. captain Meghan Duggan said. "You look at the last handful of world championships. I think we've won the last five out of six and we all know how the Olympics have gone."

The North American rivals open the 2016 women's world championship Monday against each other in a preliminary-round game in Kamloops, B.C.

While Finland, Russia and Switzerland have closed the gap somewhat on the frontrunners in women's international hockey, odds are on Canada and the U.S. meeting again for gold April 4 for a 17th time.

Sweden, Japan and the Czech Republic round out the field.

After winning the first eight women's world championships, Canada has won just twice over the last eight.

"These tournaments come down to one game. It's performance on demand," Wickenheiser said. "I do believe our team has the ability to rise to the occasion." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Kadri's aim: Nothing but net

NHL

Leafs forward is desperate to make more of glut of chances

Nazem Kadri has become one of the NHL's highest-volume shooters, only with some of the worst results this season.

The Toronto forward has scored once for every 17 shots, the second-least effective mark among forwards with at least 200 shots. Maple Leafs' coach Mike Babcock has been prodding the 25-year-old to work on his shot, something he's been doing in recent weeks alongside members of the team's skill development staff before practice.

He's trying to tweak the mechanics of a shot that's generated 14 goals on 243 attempts (a lowly six per cent efficiency).

"I'm comfortable shooting in one stance," he said in a recent interview. "That's just how I've done it for my whole career.

"But the mechanics of shooting is being deceptive and shooting off both feet so you don't telegraph your shot as much so when you go to shoot the puck everyone in the building doesn't know you're shooting it."

Increased deception is Kadri's primary goal in shooting more effectively. He wants to release the puck quicker to catch opposing goaltenders off-guard more often. The shot doesn't necessarily have to be harder, just more deceptive.

Kadri wants to lean into his stick a little more and get more bend from it and thus more snap on the shot. He's also trying to shoot more off both feet "so I don't have to really think about it much when I do it in a game."

In addition to practising such improvements, Kadri has been watching video of his scoring chances to try to glean areas for improvement.

"You can do a lot," Babcock said of improving a shot. "But it's not going to be because someone came here and worked three days with you.

"It's going to be because you hire someone in the summer, you make a commitment to getting stronger and you work at it in the off-season. No different than a basketball player would." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Nazem Kadri has been left frustrated as the Leafs' prolific shooter has little to show for his efforts, ranking as second-least effective mark among NHL forwards. CLAUS ANDERSEN/GETTY IMAGES

ROWING THAT SINKING FEELING The Cambridge women's crew, including Canadian Ashton Brown, struggle to stay afloat after taking on water in the annual Boat Race on the Thames in London Sunday. Toronto's Emma Lukasiewicz helped Oxford triumph again. RICHARD HEATHCOTE/GETTY IMAGES

GOLF

New world No. 1 makes it Day to remember

Jason Day made his return to No. 1 in the world feel even sweeter Sunday by winning the Dell Match Play.

Day outlasted Rory McIlroy in an epic battle in the morning semifinals by making a 12-foot par putt on the 18th hole. The championship match against Louis Oosthuizen turned into a victory lap at Austin Country Club.

And to think Day thought about pulling out Thursday morning when his back seized up on him. Three days later, he looked better than ever.

"It's been a memorable week, not only to win the Dell Match Play but to get back to No. 1 in the world," Day said.

$3.1 million

Jason Day has already racked up over $3 million in prize money this year with back-to-back wins and four top-20 finishes in just six tour events.

Day pulled ahead with a 10-foot birdie putt on the par-3 fourth hole, stretched his lead to 3 up at the turn and was relentless with his power and short game the rest of the way. He closed out Oosthuizen with a wedge to 3 feet for a conceded birdie on the 14th hole and a 5-and-4 victory.

It was the largest margin in the championship match since Tiger Woods beat Stewart Cink, 8 and 7, in 2008 at Dove Mountain in a 36-hole match.

Day was assured of the No. 1 ranking when Jordan Spieth lost Saturday morning in the fourth round and Day won his quarterfinal match that afternoon. But he said it would have felt hollow without leaving town with the trophy.

Oosthuizen, who knocked out Spieth, won the opening hole with a par and that was it. His only birdie was an 8-foot putt on No. 5 after Day had stuffed his wedge from the rough into 2 feet.

"I couldn't buy a birdie," Oosthuizen said. "I played OK, but nothing spectacular. Up against a guy like Jason, you need to play 3 or 4 under to have a chance."

Day, coming off a victory last week in the Arnold Palmer Invitational, has won six of his last 13 tournaments dating to the PGA Championship. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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RECIPE Pancake Tacos

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Why shouldn't two of your favourite dishes live happily on one plate?

Ready in
Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 15 minutes

Ingredients
- 2 cups spelt flour
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 Tbsp cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp grated nutmeg
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 1 cup milk
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- butter for pan
- Filling: Nutella, sliced fruit like bananas, strawberries, apples, Greek yogurt, honey, syrup, peanut butter, almonds, walnuts, coconut, etc.

Directions

1. In a large bowl, whisk flour, baking powder, soda, cinnamon, nutmeg and salt. In a medium size bowl, whisk milk, butter milk, egg, and vanilla extract. Combine wet ingredients into flour mixture and stir until just combined. Let rest in refrigerator.

2. Place a large skillet over medium heat and allow to warm. Remove batter from the refrigerator. Add a tablespoon of butter to skillet and let melt. Working in batches, ladle batter into skillet and cook until bubbles appear on surface. Flip and cook another minute or two. Remove from skillet. Repeat until you've used all the batter.

3. Place pancakes and fillings on the table and allow people to build their own.

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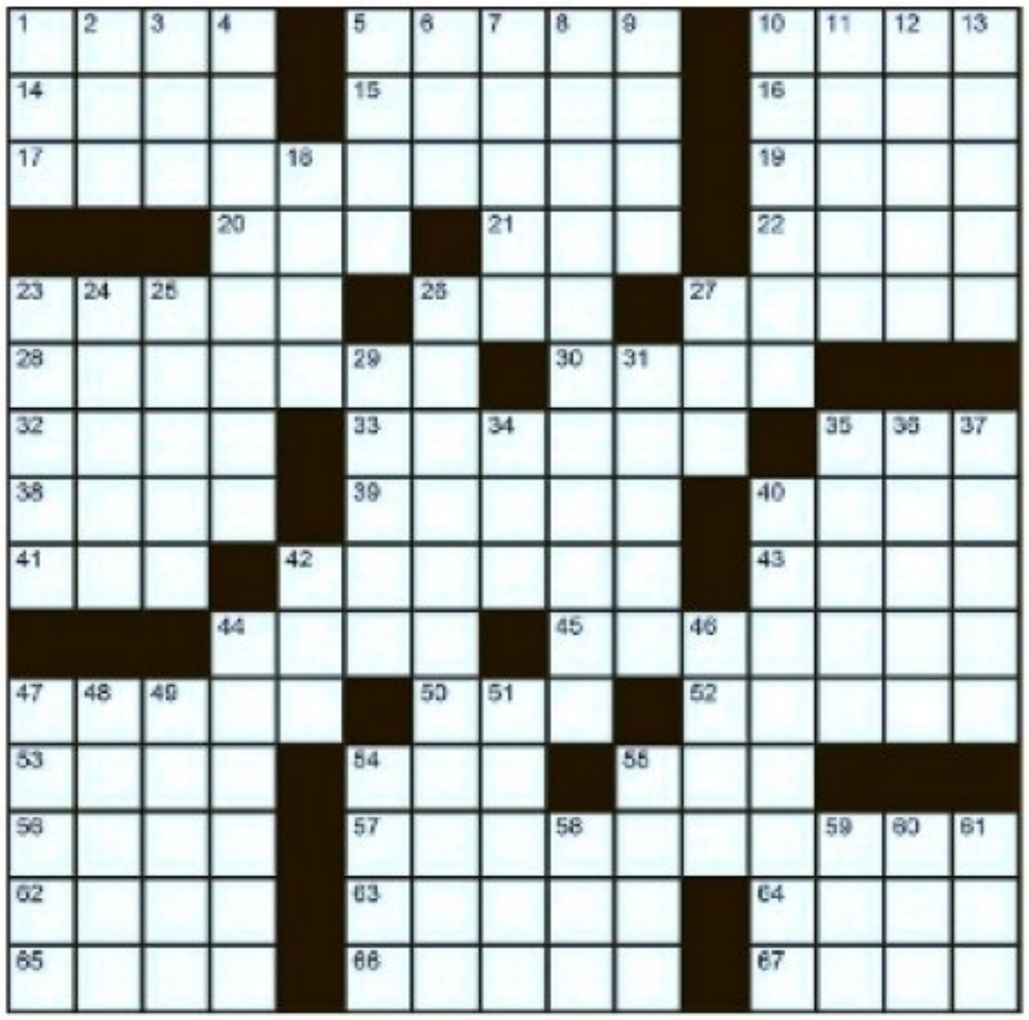
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Yesterday: French
5. Choreography components
10. Gilda Radner character, __ Wawa
14. Ancient outfit
15. The Vatican's governing body
16. Mongolia's capital, __ Bator
17. The __ Saddledome
19. Take a chance
20. Philosophy
21. __-hee! (Haha!)
22. Dog's wagger
23. Thread holder
26. "__ Air" (1997)
27. Search party in a Western
28. Mutant in "X-Men: Days of Future Past" (2014)
30. Tiger Woods' ex-wife
32. Nautical side
33. Actress Kirstie, and surnamesakes
35. Decline
38. Do some gardening
39. West Yorkshire city in England
40. "__ be okay."
41. Li'l time segments
42. Grapefruit-like fruit
43. Illusionist, archaically
44. Soaps actress Ms. Sofer
45. __ Fields (Heavenly abode in Greek mythology)
47. Mumbai's country
50. Headshakes meanings
52. Property measures
53. "Disco Duck" singer Rick
54. Reverend Scott's portrayer in "The Poseidon Adventure" (1972) ...his initials-sharers
55. Forensic 'fingerprint'
56. Eagle of the sea, variantly
57. Directed backwards
62. Hertz competitor
63. Space stranger
64. Organic compound
65. Tick-borne sickness, __ Disease
66. Skate part
67. Faux-hued hair

DOWN
1. Elevs.
2. Winter/Summer games org.
3. __ trip
4. Like short-in-supply food
5. Swindle
6. Cause supporter, __-thumper
7. Greek Myth: Muse of love poetry
8. Some of the 'leaves' in a coniferous forest: 2 wds.
9. Interest
10. Music Hall of Fame inductee Mr. Cummings
11. Handle
12. Underlying component
13. Summery jewellery, __ bracelet
18. __ of Wight (1970 rock festival)
23. Chart-topper in music
24. Less blushful
25. Moulding styles
26. "'2 Heads" singer from Thunder Bay: 2 wds.
27. Sleuths, e.g.
29. Bird's prey clasper
31. Disinfecting product
34. Kathie Gifford connector
35. Flight segment
36. Pond buildup
37. Valley varieties
40. Song by #10-Down that goes "Never been much on religion...": 2 wds.
42. __ coat
44. Where #17-Across is located in Calgary, 555 Saddledome ___
46. Dr. Cristina __ (Sandra Oh's role from "Grey's Anatomy")
47. Best
48. Brash
49. Jeans material
51. Ancient seaport of Rome
54. Seize
55. Finished
58. Popular lipstick colour
59. "Pick a card, __ card..."
60. Jane or John
61. Yore

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Avoid controversial subjects today, because people are quick to anger. Furthermore, not only are people hot tempered, they are blind to logic and reason.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
This is a poor day to discuss how to share something, because people are intense. However, if you really have to fight for your best interests, it might work; you will be courageous!

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Don't make a big deal out of things with partners and close friends today, because matters quickly can get out of hand. Wear water wings, and stay in the shallow end of the pool.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
You have lots of energy to work today. The only downside is that you might be demanding of others. Just take it easy.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
This is a powerful day for those of you who are involved in sports. However, regarding other matters, you might be coming on too strong. Be gentle with children and romantic partners.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You can use your energy today to move furniture and make improvements and renovations to your home. Do your best to avoid family arguments.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You are powerful and forceful today! Because you are persuasive, people will listen to you. Nevertheless, don't be overbearing.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Be careful when shopping today, because you might be overruled by your strong feelings instead of your good common sense. There's a difference between a want and a need.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
This is a powerful day for you, because the Moon is in your sign, lined up with fiery Mars. This makes you courageous, but also inclined to argue! Stay chill.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You can pull some strings from behind the scenes today because you have influence. One area that is a strong focus now is your home and family.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Avoid confrontations with a female companion, especially in a group, today. Things could quickly get out of hand. Keep your head down and your powder dry.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Discussions with authority figures might be too intense today. Be polite — the power of courtesy can never be underestimated. Don't go looking for trouble.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

	4	3				6	5	
1			7		4			3
8			3					1
3			6					7
	7	6				1	3	
2			5					8
4			8					6
9			1		7			2
	8	7				3	1	

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